

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-11. (cancelled)

12. (previously presented) A trawl apparatus with a trawl (1) and a means for gathering seafood/biomass and conveying it to a seafood/biomass receiving vessel (3), wherein the trawl (1) has an elongate, rigid or flexible collecting cage (5) which at an inlet opening (5') is connected to the rear end region (1') of the trawl, and from the inlet opening extends into a second portion, which has openings for straining water, and is terminated in a downstream portion (5''; 5'''); wherein a conveying hose or pipe (4; 16, 16') for conveying seafood/biomass from the collecting cage (5) to the vessel (3) opens into the downstream or aft portion (5''; 5''') of the cage (5) via a funnel (13; 17); wherein air or other fluid is supplied from the vessel (3) via a supply hose (6; 19) for injection into the conveying hose - or the pipe (4; 16), in order, by injector effect or fluid displacement technique, to bring the seafood/biomass from the collecting cage (5) up to the vessel (3), and wherein a filtering grille (12) is provided to filter away seafood or biomass which is not to be led to said funnel, characterised in

- that the supply of air or other fluid is, via the air supply hose (6; 19), adapted to be injected at a point on the conveying hose or pipe (4; 16) by means of an injector (20) in an upper area of the conveying hose or pipe (4;16) which has a marked upward gradient towards the surface of the sea.

13. (previously presented) An apparatus as according to claim 12, characterised in

- that the injector (20) is depth adjustable to be positioned at a required location in said upper area.

14. (previously presented) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 12, characterised in

- that said sorting or filtering grille (12) is provided at the inlet opening (5') of the collecting cage (5) and is arranged to extend obliquely inwards and upwards, downwards and/or sideways in the collecting cage (5); and

- that a portion (11) of roof, bottom and/or walls of the collecting cage (5) located at a downstream end of the grille (12) is open, so that seafood/biomass, for example, fish, or foreign objects over a certain size do not pass through the grille (12) but are led through the at least one open portion (11) and away from the collecting cage (5).

15. (previously presented) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 12, characterised in

- that the openings for straining water are formed of a self-cleaning grating or grille structure which may be rigid or flexible.

16. (previously presented) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 15, characterised in

- that at least one wall, roof or bottom portion of the collecting cage is equipped with a mechanical device for effecting the cleaning of the grating or grille structure.

17. (previously presented) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 12, characterised in

- that the collecting cage (5) is modularly constructed of joined sections (10).

18. (previously presented) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 12, characterised in

- that the funnel is inside the cage (5), the mouth of the funnel (17) facing and spaced from closed aft wall (9''') of the cage (5).

19. (currently amended) [[.]]An apparatus as disclosed in claim 12, characterised in

- that in connection with, after or during the conveyance of the seafood/biomass from the collecting cage (5) to the vessel (3), there is provided a straining device (15') to separate seafood/biomass from seawater which accompanies it during its conveyance from the collecting cage (5) to the vessel (3), and [[.]]

- that in connection with the straining device there is provided a deceleration device (15) which is designed to reduce the conveying rate of conveyed seafood/biomass.

20. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 12, characterised in

- that sensors (21) are provided on or in connection with the collecting cage (5) for monitoring the position/orientation of the collecting cage (5) in the water, depth, water flow etc.

21. (previously presented) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 13, characterised in

- that the openings for straining water are formed of a self-cleaning grating or grille structure which may be rigid or flexible.

22. (previously presented) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 14, characterised in

- that the openings for straining water are formed of a self-cleaning grating or grille structure which may be rigid or flexible.

23. (new) A trawl apparatus including a seafood/biomass gathering member, a trawl, and a seafood/biomass conveyor, said seafood/biomass conveyor being connected to transport seafood/biomass from said trawl to a vessel, said conveyor including a hose, said hose having an upper region, said upper region having an upward gradient, towards the surface of the sea,

wherein said apparatus includes an injector mounted in said upper region of said conveyor having said upward gradient, said injector being operable to urge seafood/biomass through said hose from the trawl to the vessel via said upward gradient.

24. (new) A trawl apparatus according to claim 23, wherein:

the trawl has an elongate, rigid or flexible collecting cage;

said collecting cage being chosen from the set of collecting cages consisting of (a) rigid collecting cages and (b) flexible collecting cages;

said elongate collecting cage has a first portion, said first portion including an inlet opening;

said inlet opening is located rearwardly of said trawl, and is connected thereto;

said collecting cage has a second portion, said inlet opening leading into said second portion;

said second portion having openings therein, said opening being operable to strain water;

said collecting cage has a third portion mounted downstream of said second portion a funnel is connected to said downstream portion;

a filtering grille is mounted upstream of said funnel to filter away seafood or biomass which is not to be led to the funnel,

a conveying hose is connected to said funnel, said conveying hose being mounted to convey seafood/biomass to the receiving vessel; and

a fluid supply hose is mounted to inject fluid supplied from the vessel into the conveying hose via the injector to urge seafood/biomass to pass from said collecting cage to the vessel.

25. (new) An apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the injector provides for injector effect or fluid displacement technique, to bring the seafood/biomass from the collecting cage up to the vessel.

26. (new) An apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the injector is depth adjustable to be positioned at a required location in said upper area.

27. (new) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said sorting or filtering grille is provided at the inlet opening of the collecting cage and is arranged to extend obliquely inwards and upwards, downwards and/or sideways in the collecting cage; and a portion of roof, bottom and/or walls of the collecting cage located at a downstream end of the grille is open, so that seafood/biomass, for example, fish, or foreign objects over a certain size do not pass through the grille, but are led through at least one portion and away from the collecting cage.

28. (new) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the openings for straining water are formed of a self-cleaning grating or grille structure.

29. (new) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein at least one wall, roof or bottom portion of the collecting cage is equipped with a mechanical device for effecting the cleaning of the grating or grille structure.

30. (new) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the collecting cage is modularly constructed of joined sections.

31. (new) An apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the funnel is inside the cage, and the mouth of the funnel faces and is spaced from the closed aft wall of the cage.